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PEMBROKESHIRE NATIONAL TRUST ASSOCIATION

www.pembsnta.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

No. 38

SEPTEMBER 2015

FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Hello, Goodbye.

It is quite apt that the Beatles song “Hello Goodbye” is from their album of 1968 Magical Mystery Tour.

We seem to have a lot of members who enjoy the day trips and summer walks: a big thanks to Tim Sims-Williams and Jim Price for organising those. A large number who attend the Autumn and Winter talks: thanks again to Arnold Williams, but sadly not enough to join the few of us on the Autumn Tour.

It was with great regret that we had to cancel the proposed trip to Stratford upon Avon this year. The few people who had signed up for it have told me how disappointed they are. However the economics of it didn't make sense. Later on in this Newsletter I have requested some information as to why the numbers were down this year.

After the April AGM we were delighted to welcome two new members to the committee; June Conlon and Judi Lee, hopefully not put off after their first committee meeting.

We still have the vacancy for Treasurer and luckily for us Margret Price has agreed to act as a temporary one until the matter is resolved. (Hopefully in the very near future)

What of the future? Under the steady hand of Sheila Ashton our members are slowly growing. So we should be able to recruit more people to help organise events !

As I said at the AGM I shall be retiring as Chairman and as such we need to recruit/press gang someone to fill this role. Are there any volunteers out there?

Nationally the N.T. is looking forward to improve the future environment in which we in the U.K. will inhabit. If you haven't already seen the Trust's website (nationaltrust.org.uk/what-we-do/big-issues), can I suggest that you visit it and view the many schemes that are being implemented to promote a better, more sustainable way of protecting the environment. Times have moved on since the days of preserving the past!

It would be remiss of me to make reference to the Trust's website without promoting our very own (pembsnta.org.uk)

Many thanks go to all who have contributed to it this year; particularly Annie and Andrew Weaver and Jane Mason. Poems and photos' are very interesting!

Once more thank you for supporting the Association. This may be my final newsletter, but who knows what the future brings! It may well be Hello Goodbye!

Dick Coggins

DONATIONS TO THE NATIONAL TRUST IN PEMBROKESHIRE

As reported in the Spring Newsletter, we donated £3000 to the National Trust in Pembrokeshire this year, split between Stackpole and North Pembrokeshire.

REPORT ON PROGRAMME EVENTS

Tuesday April 14th – AGM and talk ‘Balancing conservation and development in an historic garden’ - Steve Whitehead, Manager and Head Gardener at Colby Woodland Gardens.

Steve first explained that the Colby Woodland Garden is part of a wider Colby Estate owned by the National Trust. The Estate includes a Geological SSSI, significant industrial archaeological remains, an archive of the Colby (and other families) who have owned the estate and large areas of woodland outside the Woodland Garden.

The Trust has the responsibility of conserving this and making it accessible to visitors. Steve made the point that before you can properly conserve, you have to know what there is that needs conserving. He talked about the records that have been built up to capture this information, covering wild and garden flora, and the wide variety of fauna that exist in the Estate. There is also a Habitat Mosaic that includes woodlands, meadows, streams and ponds, together with factors such as buildings and visitors. The visitors’ views are captured in a Spirit of Place document – what do they see and think about Colby. Steve has built a management plan for Estate which lays out the directions in which it should develop. But the Plan has to be adaptable to deal with the unexpected. As the last few years have shown, nature can force changes in direction whether by plant diseases, storms or erosion. So too can visitor needs. The success of the Gardens has greatly increased visitor numbers and car parking is seriously inadequate. Getting Planning Approval for further parking requires a deep understanding of what might be damaged and what mitigation can be implemented to minimise any problems. Much has been achieved at Colby and it is well worth visiting – but best not on Bank Holiday weekends!

TRIPS

Tim Sims-Williams has given these reports of the Summer Trips.

Thursday 14th May:- ‘Dan Yr Ogof’- Welsh Show Caves and Aberdulais Tin Works and Waterfall (NT).

As only about 16 members wanted to go on this trip, I had to find a smaller coach to take us. This I found at Midway Coaches (Crymych) where they had just purchased a very comfortable 16 seater which we were able to hire at a lower price than Richard Bros’ 30 seater. With our Chairman and his wife taking their own car (this unfortunately broke down on the way) it was actually 18 who came on a wet day. With a reduced ‘collection’ tour we arrived at Dan Yr Ogof at about 11.00. After a welcome and being given a map showing the variety of areas to visit, we all set off in various directions. The caves being underground, the rain did not matter much and we learned how the caves had been discovered and saw some exciting displays of rock formations which are illuminated including the ‘Cathedral cave and waterfall’, the ‘Cauldron Chamber’, the ‘Bone Cave’ as well as a park of large dinosaur models. After lunch in the restaurant, we travelled on to Aberdulais. We were given an excellent guided tour with lots of tales of the various activities carried out over the years, enabled by the power produced by the waterfall and the proximity of a canal for transport. Power is still produced on site using water turbines and fed into the National Grid. The visit ended with tea/coffee and Welsh cakes before heading home.

Thursday 11th June:- The ‘Dyfi Osprey Project’ at Machynlleth and the Aberystwyth Cliff Railway.

Our party of 29 was blessed with a dry day for this trip. Back with a Richards Bros Coach, we arrived at the Osprey Centre at 11am. We were given a welcome and the history of the Ospreys nesting there. The chosen date enabled us to see 2 young

chicks as well as the mother on the nest. There were video films of the birds at the Centre but we also made our way along an easy walkway to the elevated viewing building to look at the nest with binoculars. The videos gave a better view than binoculars!

We set off for Aberystwyth at 12.30 and half an hour later we were at the base of the historic cliff railway which takes 20 of passengers at a time rapidly to the top of Constitution Hill and to the restaurant where we had a pre-ordered lunch. After lunch we visited the Camera Obscura which enables viewers to study an extensive view around Aberystwyth with a magnified image on the screen. With time to spare many members went for walks on the hill or returned to the town to walk the repaired promenade, seriously damaged in the 2013/4 winter storms, before boarding the coach to travel home.

Thursday July 16th: Tredegar House and Cosmeston Medieval Village

We were lucky to have an almost dry day for this long day trip – North. Pems. members starting at about 7am! In the end there were 31 on the coach by the time we left St Clears. The driver was excellent and we arrived on time at 1100 to be met by our 2 guides for the ‘Unexpected Tredegar House’ tour. This took us around the servant’s quarters and architects room in the attic, the Master’s bedroom and bathroom and then the cavernous cellars. The tour was excellent with many anecdotes of happenings in the House including how the Mistress tried to murder the Master and how the architects did not return to their attic room after being dismissed by the Council. This took longer than expected leaving little time to explore many of the formal House rooms and grounds before a ‘not very special’ buffet lunch in the Morgan Room. We left on time at 2pm and moved on to the Cosmeston Medieval Village, near Lavernock. It is thought the village was wiped out by the Black Death and only

rediscovered in the late 1970s. A number of houses have been rebuilt, as authentically as possible, on the exact sites of the original buildings. Our 2 guides in period costume showed us around the site, including the homes of the Reeve, Baker, Priest, Swineherd and a peasant. They were very well informed and gave a fascinating insight into everyday life then. After this we were able to explore a bit and have tea and cakes before the long journey back to Pembrokeshire.

We left both locations wishing we had had more time. It should encourage us to revisit.

Note

Tim is already starting to think about next year’s Trips and would welcome any ideas.

WALKS

May 5th – Pembroke Town Walk – Linda Asman

Linda, Chair of the Pembroke and Monkton Local History Society was our guide. She took us around Pembroke., which, at various times has been the focal point of Norman control of Pembrokeshire, the birthplace of the Henry 7th and the Tudor dynasty, and was besieged by Oliver Cromwell personally – enough claims to fame for a small town in West Wales. The walk started at the Castle Pond, dominated by the Castle founded in 1093. Famous Earls of Pembroke were Gilbert De Clare, ‘Strongbow’ who nearly became King of Ireland, and William Marshall who has been featured on TV recently as ‘the Greatest Knight’. The Pond, which was critical to supplying the Castle, also became a major commercial port which brought wealth to the Town over many centuries. It remained in use until 1960. The town grew up adjacent to the Castle along a limestone ridge which was flanked on both sides by marshy streams. This, together with the Town Walls, some of which still remain, made it very

defendable against attacks by the Welsh. Historic Pembroke is a one street town. Its mediaeval buildings were badly damaged during Cromwell's siege. What you now see are Georgian buildings, luckily very few of which were subsequently redeveloped. Recent EU grants, which have paid for redecoration, have greatly enhanced Main Street's appearance. The Town still maintains its Charter right which allows the closing of Main Street for several days every Autumn for the Michaelmas Fair.

June 16th – Treheinif, near St Justinians – Andrew Tuddenham

Andrew started the walk with a short introductory talk about the history of the site. In 2006 the Trust acquired the 47 acre block of land using Enterprise Neptune funds. At the time it was in a very neglected state. There were no fences and it was littered with a large accumulation of old machinery, rubbish and building rubble. However its beautiful location overlooking Ramsey Sound made it appropriate for Trust ownership.

The initial task was to clear it up. Rubbish was removed and an old tin shed, a blot on the landscape, was taken away. As we walked around the site Andrew explained there were three different environments. Firstly, rocky outcrops with gorse that would be left to (controlled) nature and which includes an Iron Age fort. Secondly, areas appropriate for grazing cattle and horses which have the particular value of staying dry in winter. The third area was good arable land, unusual on the St David's peninsular, suitable for growing oats.

The Trust decided it would manage the land itself. It erected fencing and also opened up some permissive paths. Its management plan did not make the grazing land organic but the arable land is kept herbicide free. This, together with spring cultivation, has made it a haven for rare arable plants some of which he pointed out as we walked around and whose bucolic

names I immediately forgot. I had the same problem with the bees!

It was a pleasure to be in a beautiful location on a beautiful evening and it was enjoyed by all.

July 7th – Stackpole Woods – Chris Oliver

Chris started the walk by taking us to the 'Hidden Bridge' and along the upper reaches of the Eastern arm of the Stackpole Lakes to show us the problem that is developing there. Large amounts of sediment, the consequence of intensive farming upstream, are being carried into the lake causing silting and invasion by rushes, willow and alder. A feasibility study is planned to decide how best to deal with it and how much it will cost, which will be a lot.

We then walked to Lodge Park, historically the pleasure gardens for the House. Over many decades it had become a jungle of laurel which the Trust has now killed off. This enabled a survey of trees to be carried out. They were also overcrowded and decisions were taken as to which would be felled and which specimen trees would be allowed space to develop. There are plans to plant understory trees and shrubs to make the area more attractive. We finished our tour of Lodge Park in the Rose Garden which is also being slowly restored and for which the Association donated funds to buy plants this year.

Across the road we were taken to Hill Lodge Woods where the Trust has, over time, felled the mature conifers and replaced them with coppiced ash and sycamore. This adds to the biodiversity of the area and provides biomass for the heating at the Stackpole Centre. The walk ended in Castle Dock Woods where the Trust had plans similar to Hill Lodge. Sadly the winter storms of 2013/14 brought down over 500 mature conifers. The Trust is still clearing up the mess and will have to decide on a new replanting programme.

WINTER PROGRAMME 2015/16 TALKS

Talks take place in the Picton Centre Haverfordwest commencing at 7.30pm.

Tuesday October 13th – ‘The Queen of Fitzrovia’ – David Dando

David, a retired teacher, on a visit to Tenby, noticed a ‘blue plaque’ in Lexden Crescent which stated that ‘Nina Hamnett’ was born there in 1890’. He had not heard of her but decided to research who she was and what she had achieved. He discovered she was a painter who was often painted herself, and who painted both London and Paris red in the early years of the 20th century. – earning the accolade ‘Queen of Fitzrovia’. We will find out more.

Tuesday November 10th – ‘Dale Fort, the First 500 Million Years’ – Dr Stephen Morell

Stephen has been a tutor at the Dale Fort Field Study Centre for many years, but not 500 million he adds. He will briefly talk on the geology of the Fort area and of Bronze and Iron Age inhabitants, but the focus of the talk is the Victorian Fort; the why and how it was built and its special armaments. He will finish with a few words on its role as a Field Study Centre.

Cathy Orchard from the St Davids NT Shop will be attending the evening with a range of stock for sale. This should give us an early start for Christmas shopping and the chance to help the NT. If you think you are likely to make purchases, please can you arrive earlier than usual so that the start of the Talk is not delayed.

Tuesday December 8th ‘Across the Himalaya – India to China’ – Gary Jones

Gary will take us on a journey in pictures from India, through Nepal, Tibet and into lowland China. It is an introduction to the people and scenery of the highest mountain ranges on earth. The Himalaya are a pantheon of the Hindu gods,

enlightenment of the Buddhists (linked to the daemons of Tibetan Buddhist teaching), basic to the structure of the Confucian way of life which has been lately shaped by Communism. All these affect the lives of the mountain people as well as Geology, wind, and weather. Occasional meetings with nomad yak headers all contribute to a colourful narrative to accompany the slide-show.

Tuesday January 12th 2016 – ‘Grand Teton and Yellowstone NP’ – Graham Morgan-

Graham and Daphne have been active members (and Committee members) of the Association for many years. They are also inveterate travellers and last year holidayed in the USA North West states of Wyoming and Montana. They visited the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks and Little Bighorn, famous for Custer’s Last Stand. Graham will share their various experiences with us.

Tuesday February 9th – ‘The Friendly Invasion – American GIs in Pembrokeshire during 1943-44’ – Gareth Mills

Gareth is a retired History teacher. He has written a number of books, mainly on Family History. He is also a volunteer with the Sunderland Trust in Pembroke Dock and arising from that decided to write a book about the GIs based in Pembrokeshire prior to D Day. This will be the basis of his talk.

Tuesday March 8th – ‘Haverfordwest Tudor Traders House’ – Gerallt Nash

In 1982, the remains of a medieval building were discovered near Quay Street Haverfordwest and offered to the National Museum of Wales for re-erection at St Fagans. Gerallt will talk about the research that was carried out to determine its original function, before following the stages in its dismantling, re-erection and refurbishment to its possible appearance about 1580.

Tuesday April 12th – AGM followed by a talk, speaker to be announced in the Spring 2016 Newsletter.

NT NEWSBOARD

Steve Whitehead, Andrew Tuddenham, Chris Oliver, and Angela Jones have sent us information about Trust activities around the County.

Colby Woodland Garden

Steve Whitehead reports that once again the Welsh Summer brought us both some glorious sunshine and latterly the occasional flood.

At time of writing, the new ponds at the bottom of the meadow are full to the brim, as the stream has only just settled back within its banks. After a summer full of bright blue damselflies over the new ponds, it's now the turn of the really big dragonflies to make an appearance. There are some big, beautiful monsters zooming around in the lower meadow now which will hopefully stay into late summer and early autumn.

The hydrangeas are finally having a good year after struggling through a couple of dry summers. They appreciated a drop or two of rain, and look set to put on a really good show this September. We're also really looking forward to the Autumn displays by the Japanese Acers, (especially the lovely young trees kindly donated by the PNTA last year).

Two projects are finally underway at Colby this autumn. Little Craig-y-Borion Farmhouse is rising from dereliction, as the refurbishment progresses. Hopefully it'll be finished by Christmas, and furnished and ready for working holiday groups and long term volunteers by March 2016. After watching this lovely old building slowly fall apart for the last 10 years, it's hugely satisfying to see it being brought back from the brink of collapse.

The improvement and extension of the overflow car-park has finally been approved by the planners too. Detailed construction drawings are now being

drawn up, and while it won't be ready to accommodate the crowds expected for the Winter Fair in November, it'll certainly be easing the pressure on the garden car-park by next year. The planned new map boards should help encourage our visitors to explore the estate woodland too.

The Colby Parkrun continues to go from strength to strength. We now frequently have over 100 runners lapping the garden to make their 5km run between 9 and 10 every Saturday morning. If you want to join in, the details can be found at www.parkrun.org.uk/colby/

On a sadder note we're all very sorry to be losing Tony Scourfield-Lewis as a neighbour. Tony has moved into Tenby to be more 'in the thick of it'. We would like to express our gratitude for the lasting legacy of beautifully planted and maintained gardens around the house and in the walled garden that Tony leaves us (and of course Cynthia before she sadly passed away). We have also greatly appreciated the tolerance, understanding and sharing spirit that was the hallmark of their time here. We wish Tony well in his new home.

Roll on the autumn colour at Colby

North Pembrokeshire

Andrew Tuddenham reports:

Summer work 2015-16

As mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, we've now recruited a new Ranger for north Pembrokeshire. Howard Jones joined us at the end of June and has been busy getting to know his patch and the many and varied demands of a busy coast and countryside portfolio. Howard has family connections with Pembrokeshire and he's worked with the Wildlife Trust South and West Wales at the Welsh Wildlife Centre and was a full time volunteer on the Stackpole estate.

Much of the summer work programme has been taken up by events and visitor activities, but other highlights have included:

- Turning out Welsh Black cattle from Southwood Farm onto summer grazing land at Morfa/Trelerw commons and the St David's Airfield heaths
- Setting up grazing compartments and turning out Welsh Mountain ponies onto various heathland sites including Garnwnda and the Kete coast
- Installing new car park interpretation panels at Marloes, Porth Clais and Little Milford wood
- Boundary fence repairs around the St Davids commons, including a particularly boggy and challenging project at Treleddyd Fawr common

For more pictures and updates about our conservation work go to the NTNorthPembs facebook or twitter sites, or visit the new North Pembrokeshire Coast and Countryside blog at ntnorthpembs.wordpress.com.

Runwayskiln Youth Hostel

The Youth Hostel Association (YHA) handed back the lease over the buildings at Runwayskiln at the end of April. We'd held a couple of community drop-in sessions in the buildings before Easter to give locals a chance to see the place and tell us what they hope to see from the buildings in the future. We're still looking at possible options – all of which involve finding a new leaseholder to operate at the site by the start of the 2016 visitor season – and exploring planning issues.

Progress at Treleddyd Fawr Cottage

As I write, the final furnishings and fittings are being installed at the cottage and we have a solid run of bookings as a National Trust holiday cottage from mid-September onwards through October. The cottage looks absolutely wonderful, thanks to builder Phil Yates and a great supporting cast of staff and volunteers. To quote Sarah Green, curator and project manager, 'It's been a real team effort and everyone from builders, the NT wallpaper expert, furniture restorer and archaeologist, supported by neighbours,

friends and NT volunteers have all pulled together to ensure that Mr Griffiths' wishes could be honoured.'

Sarah has kept a journal of the project, with plenty of photos, on the blog site at ntnorthpembs.wordpress.com.

Progress at Southwood Farm and the Southwood Estate

One thing can be said for our rather wet summer – it gave our 8,000 hedgerow saplings a good start, and that's good news to everyone who toiled in the mud and rain alongside Ranger Matthew Thompson to get them all planted last winter. We'll be checking the hedgerows and replacing any losses this winter.

We've also set aside the remaining balance of the 2014 PNTA donation for tree planting around the Southwood Estate for use this autumn.

We had new cattle handling equipment installed into the modern shed at the start of the summer, funded through a Welsh Government grant to improve our ability to manage the heaths around St Davids. The handling pen, race and cattle crush has made a huge improvement to operator safety and efficiency, and the cattle are a lot more compliant (generally).

Southwood Hunting Lodge has had some damp repairs undertaken and was advertised as an assured short-hold tenancy at the end of summer. We're currently choosing a new tenant.

The next phase of conservation repairs to the Range this year is due to start in September on the north Range. These sheds still have a pegged-slate roof, albeit looking worn and in need of attention. We want to restore the roof using this traditional method.

Stackpole and Gupton Farm

Chris Oliver reports:

Stackpole Estate

This has been busy as ever with visitor numbers exceeding 25,000 on the main estate alone!

On the Stackpole estate the team has been busy carrying out our routine maintenance schedule, whilst looking ahead to the winter and the woodland management due to take place. You may notice that the Rose arbour in Lodge Park wood has a new addition in the form of Rose Veilchenblau (1869). This is a lovely climber with a pink flower. It will be one of two roses of this variety trained along the arbour.

Clearance of storm damage in Castledock woods is still ongoing. Work in Cheriton Bottom was completed in August and this woodland is now open. Much of this timber has been taken to timber mills, but we will be saving a quantity to be used as biomass on the estate.

This winter will be carrying out an extensive felling program which will include the clearance of ash and sycamore in the Rose garden that will be replaced with specimen trees. Further felling will be carried out on the estate including two coppice coups, one on the eastern arm of the lakes and one on the southern edge of the walled garden. The timber will be harvested and used primarily as firewood, woodchip and 'post and rail' fencing.

If you are interested, firewood from the Estate is available now. Delivery is available if you live within the old estate boundary.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or just chat to one of the team when you see them around the estate.

Gupton and Freshwater West

Despite the unimpressive summer, FW has been particularly busy, resulting in the temporary car park having been open for the maximum time allowed. The Ranger team have been carrying out early morning

patrols to dissuade campers and motorhome owners from staying overnight on NT land. I personally have seen less campers this year but far more motorhomes, including 6 wheelers!

The management of Gupton Farm and Castlemartin Corse has been continuing throughout the summer, most notably with the opening of a new sign posted access route around the farm which starts in the main car park at FW. There are two routes, designed so that the natural diversity of the farm can be observed with as minimal impact as possible. To this end we are not allowing dogs on the routes.

Another fantastic addition to the site is the new round house bird hide being constructed at the far eastern end of southern side of the Corse. This beautiful structure is being built by Andy Gill of Phoenix Wood Crafts and is made exclusively from timber harvested on the Stackpole Estate by the ranger team.

Grazing resumed on the dune grassland and fen meadows in July and will continue October/November time when the Cattle will be moved to their overwintering areas. This year has seen vigorous growth of many agricultural plant species, particularly clover. In 2016 the cows will be grazing throughout the summer in order to try and control the more aggressive species which are in danger of out-competing the more vulnerable dune grassland species such as Centaury. Of course the cattle will eat some of the wildflower species we would like to maintain but the result of inaction is far worse.

In September a new out-flow pipe will be installed at Freshwater West. We hope that this will work more effectively than the stone arch alone. The outflow will consist of a plastic pipe, 12m long and 600mm wide, surrounded by large boulders which will comprise of the boulders already on the beach. This design is considered a temporary solution with the long term prognosis being the

ingress of the sea in to the Corse itself, most likely through a major storm event.

Tudor Merchant's House

Angela Jones reports:

The Tudor Merchant's House continues to attract a good number of visitors and to entertain them with tales of life in 1500.

Working through the year we held our first Tudor Christmas and although on a small scale it did create interest from visitors to show them how the Tudors would have celebrated the 12 days of Christmas. The smell of the wood fire stayed in the house for several months afterwards which was a lovely treat for all of us. The Tudors used a lot of greenery to celebrate this time of the year and the house was full of holly and ivy!

We then moved on to Easter when we had the Cadbury's Easter Egg Trail and many families visited to hunt for our hot cross bun pictures and then claim their eggs which was lovely to see.

This year we have purchased some Tudor games which have been challenging visitors – they are very strategic and it has been fun not only to learn to play them but to talk about them to visitors. The 3 Men's Morris that we also sell in our shop has proved very popular and we have already had to re-order to stock up!

The summer holidays are always a very busy time of year and this year was no exception as we have so far had more visitors this year than last. The hot days see people travelling to Stackpole, Colby and North Pembs but when it is wet they tend to come to us. Having a small maximum for visitors, 30 people, means that on wet days we are often entertaining a queue in the reception area. This is so lovely as we can then talk to people about the National Trust and sell raffle tickets!

Then we are off into the autumn again having completed our year.

EVENTS AUTUMN 2015

Colby Woodland Gardens

For more information on these events
contact Colby on 01834 811885

Oct 28th and 29th -Wild Woodland Adventures

Half term fun ranger-led activities will give families the opportunity to discover together some wildlife habitats and learn more about the great outdoors. Start 1pm. Cost £3 per child.

Oct. 28th and 29th -50 Things to do before you are 11 3/4

Fully guided family friendly stroll as twilight falls. Discover a variety of woodland life. Start 4pm – Cost – Adult £3.50, Child £2.50. Booking essential.

The above events are held in partnership with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

Oct 31st - Colby's Halloween Lantern Making and Spooky Trail

Starting 3.30pm, design and decorate your own Halloween lantern and around 4.30/5.00pm start guiding yourselves around our spooky woodland trail. Cost child £3.00 .

Nov 14th and 15th - Colby's Winter Fare
Come and sample quality foods, crafts and seasonal fayre from local suppliers. 10am to 4pm.

Stackpole

Sept 26th - 28th - 50 Wild Things Camp

Join us for a full on woodland adventure. Bush Craft workshops, wild fire food and woodland activities will be part of your great outdoor experience as you spend 2 nights at Stackpole. Arrive Friday 3pm and depart midday Sunday. Cost £15per person.

Oct 7th - Otter spotter walk and talk – 7 – 9am

Join Volunteer Rangers, Jim and Marilyn, to explore the lakes and find the otter's playground. Afterwards warm up with a breakfast bap and tea or coffee. Cost £8pp.

Oct 11th - Coppice experience, 10am to 3pm

Learn a traditional farming method and warm yourself with a hearty cawl for lunch. Cost £10pp.

Oct 29th - 50 things Autumn Challenge, 11am to 1pm

Join the afternoon fun at Lodge Park Wood where you can do as many of the '50 Things' as possible, including kites at the Court site, pond dipping at the hidden bridge, snail racing at the stone seat..... Cost £2pp.

Oct 30th - Halloween, 5pm -7pm

Come and make a lantern and enjoy some Halloween treats at the Court site, followed by a spooky lantern walk through the wood. Fancy dress is a must, the scarier the better. Cost £5pp.

For more information, see our website nationaltrust.org.uk/stackpole or contact Stackpole Reception Centre on **01646 661425** or email stackpoleevents@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Friday Dec 5th - Dinner and Dancing

We are continuing our popular Christmas function with a traditional four course Christmas dinner, DJ and dancing for just £25 per person. We offer accommodation at just £18 and discounted wines too! For enquiries or to book – please contact our reception team on 01646 661425

Tudor Merchants House

Oct. 30th - Things that go bump in the night and other strange tales. A Candle Light miscellany. 7pm. Booking essential on 01834 842279.

North Pembrokeshire

Tues. Sept 29th - Rocks and Ruins

A 4 mile circular walk from **Porthgain to Abereiddi** with our Ranger. See the dramatic remains of a quarrying industry that once exported roadstone all over the UK. Steep steps and moderate gradients. 10am to 1pm. Bookings 01348 837860

Sat Oct 3rd - Seal Pups at Martins Haven.

A 2 mile walk around the Deer Park, with our Ranger. See the annual arrival of seals and their pups on the beaches below the cliffs. Some moderate gradients and high cliff viewpoints. Binoculars or telescopes are useful. No dogs, please
2 to 4 pm..Booking 01348 837860

Sat. Oct 17th - Seal Pups at Martins Haven. As Oct 3rd

Wed. Oct 28th - Seal and porpoise walk.

Explore the fascinating world of these mammals in this 2 mile walk with our Ranger on the spectacular Treginnis peninsula. Some uneven, rocky ground and high cliff viewpoint.
9.00am-12.00. Bookings 01348 837860

Thurs. Oct 29th-Seal Pups at Martins Haven.

A 2-mile walk around the Deer Park, with a Ranger. See the seals and their pups on the beaches below the cliffs. Some moderate gradients and high cliff viewpoints. Join Matt for a cup of hot chocolate and a biscuit at the Old Coastguard Hut. Binoculars or telescopes are useful. No dogs, please.
11.00am-13.00. Bookings 01348 837860

Frid Oct 30th - Halloween at Southwood

Spooky Hallowe'en trail into the woods and around the farm, creative seasonal activities, refreshments.
11:00am - 16:00. Call 01348 830900 for more information.

Sat Dec 12th - Southwood - Christmas Fair. Crafts, gifts and food, find finishing touches and last minute treats around the 19th century farm range.
No charge. Donations welcome. 10.30am-16:00

St Davids Visitor Centre and Shop

There will be tasting days at the Shop on Sat. Nov 28th and Sat. Dec 5th

A full list of all NT Events in Pembrokeshire can be found at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/whats-on/find-an-event/

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Your membership subscriptions are due for renewal on Jan. 1st 2016. Thanks if you have already completed a Standing Order or paid by other means. If not will you please send a cheque, with the form attached to the Newsletter, to the Membership Secretary. Subscription rates are unchanged at £5 for Individual and £8 for Family Membership. If you would like to pay by Standing Order, please ask the Membership Secretary for a form. (Telephone No. 01437 731525)

PNTA WEBSITE

The Association website at www.pembsnta.org.uk contains information about the Association, our Events Programme, Newsletter and Association news items. We hope it will attract new members and, together with email and MailChimp, help us provide up to date information for members.

CONTACT BY EMAIL

We are continuing to increase our use of electronic communications. If you have an email address and are not receiving messages, such as **MailChimp**, from us, or have just started an email account, please email our Membership Secretary, Sheila Ashton at robashton95@yahoo.co.uk .

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 2015/16

Your officers and committee members are as follows (* Officer):

CHAIRMAN*	Dick Coggins Tel:01437 781145
VICE-CHAIRMAN* (Newsletter and Walks)	Jim Price Tel: 01646 661344
TREASURER*	Margret Price Tel: 01646 661344
SECRETARY*	Annie Weaver Tel: 01437 762072

GENERAL MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP SEC	Sheila Ashton 01437 731525
TALKS	Dr. Arnold Williams 01437 720169
TRIPS	Tim Sims-Williams 01348 811412
P.R.	Jane Mason Tel: 01437 762387
MailChimp	Andrew Weaver 01437 762072 June Conlon 01437 779493 Judy Lee 01437 768538

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

If you wish to renew and do not have standing order, please fill in and return to:

Sheila Ashton, Hon. Membership Secretary, PNTA,
Pond Meadow, Wiston, SA62 4PR

I/We wish to renew our membership

Individual members	£5	_____
Family members	£8	_____

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to PNTA

Signed _____ Dated _____

AUTUMN TOUR QUESTIONNAIRE

As I mentioned in the Chairman's Report, we had to cancel this year's Tour because of insufficient bookings. The PNTA has organised Tours for many years to areas, beyond the reach of day trips, to enable members to visit NT Properties they would not otherwise see. These have been greatly enjoyed by members and they are also a major source of our fund-raising for the National Trust.

Tours have mostly taken place over a long weekend lasting 4 days (3 nights away) in September, usually the 3rd weekend but sometimes the 1st. The 2nd weekend is 'open house' for all NT and other historic properties and coach parties are not allowed.

This is the first time we have cancelled and the Committee would like to get a clearer view of members' preferences to aid our future planning.

Getting feedback from our wider membership is not easy and we would like your help in replying to the Questionnaire.

If you are **potentially** interested in taking part in future Tours, could you please answer the following questions (**please circle your preference**):

1 Timing

Would you prefer tour to take place?:

Mid May Early September Late September Flexible about date

2 Duration

The 4 day duration of the Tours has enabled us to visit locations in the South and Midlands of England, and in North Wales. If an extra day were added, we could explore new areas in the North of England. Would you prefer the Tours to last?:

4 days (3 nights) 5 days(4 nights) . No preference

3 Cost

The cost of the 4 day tours has been around £250 per person with a small single room supplement.

Do you consider this acceptable for a 4 day Tour Yes/No

Would you be prepared to pay more for a 5 day Tour Yes/No

Please return the Questionnaire to me in one of the following ways:

Email: dick_coggins@hotmail.com

Post: Dick Coggins, Middle Broadmoor, Talbenny, Little Haven SA62 3XD

Phone 01437 781145

Thanks for your help,

Dick Coggins, Chairman